

4. ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF ASIAN HORSESHOE BAT *RHINOLOPHUS YUNANENSIS*

(With a text-figure)

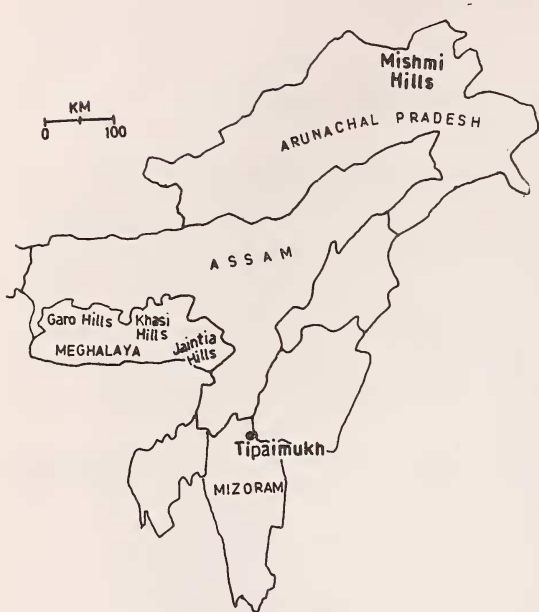


Fig. 1. Location of various places mentioned in the text.

This has reference to the article "A note on *Rhinolophus pearsonii* Horsfield, 1851 and *Rhinolophus yunanensis* Dobson, 1872 (Chiroptera: Rhinolophidae)" by J.E Hill in *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 83 (Suppl.). I did not go through the article in detail, but some location errors caught my attention

On page 15, col. 2, para 3, the name of the locality "Tupai Mukh" should actually be "Tipaimukh". It is located in the Lushai Hills, which are presently in Mizoram and not Meghalaya as mentioned. Mishmi Hills are also not a part of Meghalaya, but are in Arunachal Pradesh. Khasi and Jaintia Hills are, of course, part of Meghalaya.

The errors are again repeated on pp. 16 and 17. The map (Fig. 1) shows the relative location of Meghalaya, Mishmi Hills and Tipaimukh. Moreover, on pp. 12 and 14 Meghalaya has been mentioned as being part of Assam, which it was only till 1972. Garo, Khasi and Jaintia Hills were part of Assam, but later became the separate state of Meghalaya.

April 20, 1989. ANWARUDDIN CHOUDHURY

5. ON THE STATUS OF MADRAS TREE SHREW *ANANTHANA ELLIOTI ELLIOTI*

The Wynad plateau in south India is c. 700 m above sea level and juts into the Malabar plains, ending rather precipitously on the Western Ghats. Wynad receives an average annual rainfall of c. 380 cm, mostly between May and August. It is criss-crossed by streams and supports a dense tropical forest, which until recently was nearly impenetrable. Destruction of forests for establishing Tea, Coffee and Cardamom plantations have now opened up most regions for human interference.

At the invitation of Prof. B.K. Nayar, Head of the Department of Botany, University of Calicut, I joined a team that undertook a three day survey of Wynad, Kerala, in February 1982 to assess the extent of possible destruction of the flora and fauna that could be caused by a proposed hydro-electric project. The study was sponsored and financed by the Kerala Electricity Board. The main areas covered were Mananthodi, Pakranthalam, Periya etc. On 15 February 1982, we were collecting plants and observing animals and birds. I walked alone a distance of

about half a kilometre ahead of the team and reached a tarred road near the Arboretum (Silviculture Research Centre) of the Forest Department at about 0940 hrs.

At the side of the tarred road and adjoining this tree garden, I saw one Madras Tree Shrew *Ananthana ellioti ellioti* on the ground on and among the carpet of fallen dry leaves, mainly of Teak *Tectona grandis*. Even at first glance I could see that this animal was somewhat different from a squirrel or rat, and identified it as *Ananthana ellioti ellioti*. I watched the animal for more than ten minutes and it appeared to me that it was not very disturbed by my presence at a very close quarters. Later on, when I picked up a stone and made as if to throw it, the shrew ran and climbed a Teak tree adjacent to a bamboo clump. I was not able to photograph the animal as I did not have a camera with me.

The mammal gallery in the Natural History section of the Prince of Wales Museum, Bombay, where I worked from 1969 to 1977, contains a single mounted and ex-hi-